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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/748,391	12/30/2003	Adam Yeh	M61.12-0568	7557
27366 7590 08/07/2008 WESTMAN CHAMPLIN (MICROSOFT CORPORATION) SUITE 1400 900 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-3244				
EXAMINER				
FREID, RUSSELL WARREN				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2128				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
08/07/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/748,391

Applicant(s)

YEH ET AL.

Examiner

Russell Frejd

Art Unit

2128

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 March 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8, 10-15 and 17-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8, 10-15 and 17-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF-08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Examination of Application #10/748,391

1. Claims 1-6, 8, 10-15, and 17-26 are pending in the application. Claims 7, 9, and 16 are canceled. This communication is in response to the amendment and terminal disclaimer received 3- March-2008.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph

2. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In regard to claims 1-6, 8, and 10-14, claim 1 is directed to a computer-readable storage medium. However, claims 2-6, 8, and 10-14 are directed to a "system". This "system" is considered vague and indefinite as it could refer to any of the computer system, the data processing system, or the model service system, each of which is a feature of claim 1. Clarification is required.

In regard to claim 15, the following phrases are considered vague and indefinite:

"A system computer-readable storage medium" [line 1]

"...processing system for supporting analytical processing..." [line 5]

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

3. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefore, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

3.1 Claims 1-6, 8, 10-15, and 17-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

3.2 The Examiner posits that “system” claims 1 and 15 of the present invention are computer executable software code, or a program per se, having software instructions that implement the system for supporting analytical processing of transactional business data. For at least this reason, the software instructions of the present invention do not meet the criteria for a statutory process (MPEP Section 2106.01).

3.3 MPEP 2106 provides the following supporting rational for this reasoning:

****>**Descriptive material can be characterized as either “functional descriptive material” or “nonfunctional descriptive material.” In this context, “functional descriptive material” consists of data structures and computer programs which impart functionality when employed as a computer component. (The definition of “data structure” is “a physical or logical relationship among data elements, designed to support specific data manipulation functions.” The New IEEE Standard Dictionary of Electrical and Electronics Terms 308 (5th ed. 1993).) “Nonfunctional descriptive material” includes but is not limited to music, literary works, and a compilation or mere arrangement of data.

In view of the aforementioned requirement, the Examiner respectfully contends that the claim language of claims 1 and 15 appear to disclose software modules that do not impart functionality to the computer hardware, the software modules including [claim 1] a model service system, an entity generator, and a navigation service; and [claim 15] a design system and a navigation service.

The Examiner respectfully notes that Applicant’s remarks describe claims 1 and 15 as capable of receiving inputs and generating outputs, as proof that the claimed elements are a “system”. However, it is noted that Applicant did not specifically indicate the system to be comprised of hardware. The Examiner respectfully posits that software modules are capable of receiving inputs and generating outputs, and requests that Applicant indicate the specific

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passages of the disclosure which describe the model service system, the entity generator, the navigation service, and the design system as hardware.

Also, applicant has amended claims 1 and 15 to include the statement "...instructions that enable the processor to implement...". It is deemed by the examiner that the instructions are not actually executed by the computer in order to enable the computer to implement a data processing system. If the instructions are not executed by the computer, they are considered to be mere data on the medium, and do not meet the criteria for a statutory process (MPEP Section 2106.01).

Allowed Claims

4. Claims 1-6, 8, 10-15 and 17-26 are deemed allowable over the prior art of record at this time, pending resolution of any rejections noted above, because the prior art does not specifically disclose the claimed system for supporting analytical processing of transactional business data by an application.

Response Guidelines

5. A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire **3 (three) months and 0 (zero) days** from the date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned (see MPEP 710.02, 710.02(b)).

5.1. Any response to the Examiner in regard to this non-final action should be

directed to: Russell Frejd, telephone number (571) 272-3779, Monday-Friday from 0530 to 1400 ET, or the examiner's supervisor, Kamini Shah, telephone number (571) 272-2279. Inquires of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC2100 Group Receptionist (571) 272-2100.

mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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or faxed to: (571) 273-8300

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to the Customer Service Window, Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314.

Date: 2-August-2008

/Russell Frejd/
Primary Examiner AU 2128